dweep and Pondicherry have Panchayat! Raj system with varying degrees of powers and functions. The Union Government have been impressing on the State Governments *an* the need to hold timely elections to these bodies and give them adequate powers and functions so that they become vibrant instruments of popular participation in the development process.

Assistance to Divorced Muslim Women

. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether WAKF Boards have given any assistance to the divorced MUshm Women till this date; if so, the details thereof and the number i divora given to Muslim women during the last one year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the High Courts are awarding substantia] amoun's to divorced Muslim women: if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to help divorced Muslim women not supported by Wakf Boards on their parents or the divorcing husbands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) As part of their welfare activities the Wakf Boards give assistanec to the poor and the needy which may include divorced Muslim Women also. However, no specific data is available in respect oi this category of beneficiaries. There is no practice of recording all divorces amongst Muslims. As such it is not possible to collect authentic information on the number of divorces given to Muslim Women.

(b) There is no such report with Government.

(c! Provisions have already been in tlie Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 for granting maintenance to divorced Muslim Women and there is no further proposal under consideration.

Central Assistance to Cooperatives of Fishermen

3061. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will tile Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the central assistance given to Fishermen Cooperative Societies in Andhra Pradesh during the last three wise; and

(b) the new central schemes en--aged for the development of fish-men villages in Andhra Pradesh Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICUL TURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV); (a) The National Cooperative DeveTop-poraUon has released the following financial assistance to fisheries operative in Andhra Pra-desh during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88

(Rupees in Lakh)

1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
11.188	47"669	80.999

(b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme *viz.* National Welfare Fund for fishermen has been approved during Seventh Five Year Plan for development of 62 model fishermen villages in 17 States and *one* Union Territory including 5 fishermen- villages each in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu with housing, drinking water supply, community hall and credit society.

Incentives to vegetable growers in Andhra Pradesh

3062. SHRI- TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE j j-,.-, pleased to state:

(a) whether any incentives are baling given to vegetable growers in

Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the latest technology provided to the farmers for grow more fruits; and

(c) the Financial Assistance given to farmers by the National Horticultural Board till March, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Under Contingency Plan for increasing production of Vegetables, mini-kits containing vegetable seeds, ferti-lisers etc. are being supplied to the farmers in Andhra Pradesh during Kharif, 1988.

(b) Technology for improved cultivation practices such as use of elite planting material, fertiliser application, control of pests and diseases etc. are provided to the farmers for growing fruits.

(c) Till March, 1988 National Horti. culture Board provided Rs. 7.35 lakh to the State Government to benefit farmers of Andhra Pradesh.

Installation of Statue of Shri T. Prakasham Panthulu

3063. SHRI TALAPJ MANOHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

fa) whether any decision was taken to ins!ai a statue of Shri Tan. guteri Prakasham Panthulu in Delhi;

(b) if so, when and the site therefor is likely to be selected and where; and

(c) the name of the artist entrusted with the job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) A decision in principle has been taken to instal the statue of Shri Tanguteri Prakasham Panthulu at New Delhi. The selection of site and artiste has not yet been made. The Prakasham Institute of Development Studies, Hyderabad was requested to bear the cost of the statue and its installation. Confirmation from them is still awaited.

Financial Assistance to varioue Urban Development Authorities of Andhra Pradesh

3064. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVE. LOPMENT be pleased to state the financial assistance given by the Central Government to Hyderabad Urban Development Authority, Vijaya-wada Urban Development, Tirupati Development Authority, Visaq Urban Development Authority and Warangal Urban Development Authority of Andhra Pradesh for various development schemes for the years 1985 to 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): The Central Government does not provide financial assistance to these Urban Development Authorities directly, however, under the Central, ly Sponsored Schemes of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns, an amount of Rs. 26 lakhs has been given to the Government of . Andhra Pradesh for the development of Tirupati Town during the period 1985—88. In addition the following financial assistance is envisaged under the Overseas Development Admi- , nistration (ODA), U.K. assisted habitat improvement projects in Andhra Pradesh:

1. *Vishakhapatvam Habitat Project:* Upgradation of 170 slums in Vishakhapatnam at an approved allocation of £ 9.75 million.

2. Hydarabad *Habitat hr.iprove-ment; Project—Phase*—17, Covering of 207 slums at a revised cost of Rs. 1557 lakhs.